in Mile often Dear Parents Seat my self this serving be refly to gover the which I received last enring to make your all well your found me columbia's sop was proud and go mostly well & pelmy first with the government of the mell your fort with the policious make, Uncel Baryella & also mer count in among the fower. over to see me the other day we had a first write Plots of the Dayson boys have been over their regt lays about 8 miles from us yesterday I went over there & stayed till dark Isaw so many that I used to be acquainted with that I al word, thing he that a how got home I see tog your letter that you are working about me or have been since the last battle but I hope that you will ged better before this reaches you you manted to know Somethingsobord ons clothing in the first place we are fixed newly comfortable non Frank

& Compbell of Terrysburgh is und tout mate now since John Mayer mes wind I had a line from John last migh he said that his beg was and girute as well as when he first got to Washington but he stroks that he can some his leg Frank the my self has y Mick Moden blankets trouttons other fixings makes no flenty warms enough I drew me a new fair of faints The Sher day & own frethy well clothed My now of shall draw me a dress Coat fretty soon of Then I shall have flenty of clothes for the present the Government from ished is mitens This fall they wer four Things feet better their wone you efals. some thing about a box I will tell you about that mail till you hear from me agains I will tell you what we most stand in need of to make us nerry comfortable or this is butter Chees & dried finit I will tell are have lived on hard bread & salt fork. Till we all have the Dire & have had it quite

a spell PI tell you that whom I died fruit is one of the best of Changes in diel & tell Grandmother that she can aend me a minee fier or a little can of long that is if I should send for a box me are getting a little better face now ? trobby if we stay here This minter & Mint me shall me shall get potatoes & onions once in a while of perhaps we shall get a few Dried affles me should have such thing at enmy reate you need not do enmy this about sinding army by motile you lead of from me afair high what did you have for this offer maked suffer for what the you what had fill freakfust of suffer me had both would full freakfust of suffer me had both to boiled full freakfust of some slime affles me me bought the thing over to enjoyed enny Edvistmes Enfer better than we com of one man and some manual com affort one the other don't he gave me I shall not get and for months the first of family Ones heart months balond of our Colors came back glad to be from be super fy of as entirely as me com he says Mat he and againg to have much Drie now days

I tell you all but coming out Wiclosions me got a femble licking there mes un auful slanter & the trouble is me could me have a chance to purish them they mer a least of field of they afond about too canhon on one bright of they stanted us sadly one rest mener fright a grun or oney now of them one me had sather that to get a forther that of a to get a so did comment to have got a so did comment of how got a scratch yet got have been m 6 hard fight & wish that you could feel into our little tent to might of grees you would say that we are frether the fight I found 2 fat irishmen in my Sellar with a good thick curvass hint oner it & a good warm fire means fine flace 40 full before to dime only they did that the test it is a regular officers fent it makes us a Stendiel Manshin I mailed you a Japer Mr atherday to more you a letter after the lattle for the special that you have not got that as you alther the got that as you although the formation and that is to glad that to commission our test allier that is to glad values for our test allier. Them out that genses me from cell grand duty & all drills tofont make enny moregluty & not quit as much it & makes a littlediffence in fay 17 a month moteast of is I must clas miglous to all V remain as ever your most affectional Son Willer Hollerice

## Dear Parents

I seat my self this evening to reply to your letter which I received last evening I was glad to hear that you wer all well yourss found me usaly well & feeling first rate Uncle Barzilla & Alva wer over to see me the other day we had a first rate visite & lots of the Dayton boys have been over their regt lays about 3 miles from us vesterday I went over there & stayed till dark I saw so many that I used to be aquainted with that I almost thought that I had got home& I see by your letter that you are worring about me or have been since the last battle but I hope that you will feel better before this reaches you you wanted to know something about our clothing in the first place we are fixed very comfortable now Frank -- Campbell of Perrysburgh is my tent mate now since John Mayer was wounded I had a line from John last nigh he said that his leg was not quite as well as when he first got to washington but he thinks that ce can save his leg Frank & myself has 4 thick woolen blankets & with our other fixings makes us plenty warm enough I drew me a new pair of pants the other day & I am pretty well clothed up now I shall draw me a dress coat pretty soon & then I shall have plenty of clothes for the present the Government furnished us mitens this fall they were poor things but better than none you asked something about a box I will tell you about that mail till you hear from me again I will tell you what we most stand in need of to make us verry comfortable & I think is butter Chees & dried fruit I will tell we have lived on hard bread & salt pork till we all have the Dire & have had it quite a spell & I tell you that Chees & dried fruit is one of the best of changes in diet & tell Grandmother that she can send me a mince pie or a little can of honey that is if I should send for a box we are getting a little better fare now & probably if we stay here this winter (& I think we shall) we shall get potatoes & onions once in a while & perhaps we shall get a few Dried apples we should have such things at enny rate you need not do enny things about sending enny box untill you hear from me again

Oh what did you have for Christmas supper I will tell you what I & Frank had for breakfast & supper we had some boiled potaotes fried stake & some stewed apples we we bought the thing over to the Brigade Commisaries & I never enjoyed enny Christmas Supper better than I did that it was better than we can afford evey day Austin Stafford was over here the other day & he gave me 1 dollar we have not got enny pay yet but we expect to get pay for 6 months the first of January Our Colone came back night beofre las I tell you we wer glad to see him he sayes fix up as

comfortable as we can be saves that he aint agoing to have much Drill now days I tell you all but coming out victorions we got a terrible licking there was an awfull slauter & the trouble is we could not have a chance to punish them they wer on a high bluff & we had to march over a large open field & they opened about 100 cannon on our brigad & slautered us badly our regt never fired a gun or onely now & then one we had rather a tough time out ther but I am thankfull that I got out as well as I did I never have got a scratch yet & I have been in 6 hard fights I wish that you could peep into our little tent to night I guess you would say that we are pretty comfortable when we came back from the fight I found 2 fat irishmen in my sellar witha a good thick canvass tent over it & a good warm fire in our fire place & I just told them to climb out & they did & left the tent it is a regular officers tent it makes us a splendid Manshion I mailed you a paper the other day & I wrote you a letter after the battle & it seemes that you have not got that as vet I have been promoted since the last battle to commisary Sergeant that is to draw rations for our co & deliver them out that ecuses me from all quard duty & all drills it dont make enny more duty & not quit as much it makes a little difference in pay 17 a month instead of 13 I must close my love to all I remain as ever your most affectionat Son Wilber H Merrill